

REMARKS

Claims 22, 25, 28, 37, 39, 42, 44-45, 47, 52-53 and 55 have been amended. The remaining pending claims have been withdrawn due to a restriction requirement.

Accompanying this amendment is a newly cited reference to Broun et al (U.S. Patent 5,431,970), which was cited in a related application (U.S. Serial No. 08/910,115). This patent is directed to a laminate material for protective bags and cases. The pending claims have been amended to clearly indicate that they are directed to footwear.

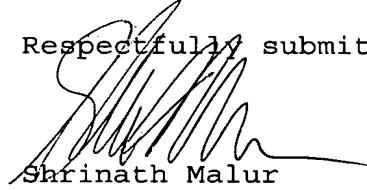
Furthermore, some of the claims recite the reversible enhanced thermal properties of the footwear. The Examiner is reminded that such properties are not inherent properties of composites. The Examiner's attention is directed to the patents incorporated by reference in the present application regarding reversible enhanced thermal properties. In addition to having no bearing on footwear, Broun et al are silent as to such properties. This is understandable, because Broun et al merely discuss a protective bag for the protection of equipment such as rifles.

Reversible enhanced thermal properties provide comfort for individuals that are wearing the inventive footwear according to the present invention. In addition, all of the pending claims are directed to footwear having a moisture transferring non-woven material. As such, it is submitted that all of the claims patentably define the present invention over the cited art.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants contend that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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on 4-1-04 by Karen K. Sherry